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WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP (MICROSOFT CORPORATION)			WANG, BEN C	
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/790,663	GRYKO ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	BEN C. WANG	2192	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 January 2008.

2a) This action is **FINAL**.                            2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-5, 7-12, 14-19 and 21 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-5, 7-12, 14-19 and 21 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. January 14, 2008.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

***DETAILED ACTION***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 25, 2008 has been entered.

2. Applicant's amendment dated January 24, 2008, responding to the Office action mailed November 27, 2007 provided in the rejection of claims 1-21, wherein claims 1, 8, and 15 are amended, claims 6, 13, and 20 are canceled.

Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-19, and 21 remain pending in the application and which have been fully considered by the examiner.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims currently amended have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection – see Dardinski *et al.* - art made of record, as applied hereto.

***Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leach et al. (Pat. No. US 6,412,020 B1) (hereinafter 'Leach') in view of Dardinski et al. (Pat. No. US 6,754,885 B1) (hereinafter 'Dardinski' - art made of record)

4. **As to claim 1** (Currently Amended), Leach discloses a method for building an extensible project system (e.g., Abstract, Lines 1-4 – the method aggregates an enclosed object within an enclosing object) comprising:

- providing a base project object comprising data for creating a project system (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 9-11 – enclosing an object within another object while exposing an interface of the enclosed object to client of the enclosing object; Col. 9, Lines 27-30 – to provide a method and system for enclosing objects wherein an enclosed object can itself be an enclosing object to an arbitrary level of enclosing; Col. 9, Lines 45-46 – implementing controlling behavior over common functionality present in enclosed objects; Col. 10, Lines 9-13 – an enclosed object is implemented with knowledge of the external interfaces of the enclosed object and has no knowledge of interfaces (other than the controlling object management interface; Col. 10, Lines 35-38 – during creation, a pointer to the enclosing multi-type object is passed to the object to be enclosed to enable the enclosed object to communicate with the enclosing multi-type object) of the enclosing object or other enclosed objects);

- providing at least one flavor object comprising data for modifying said project system for a specific purpose (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 9-11 – enclosing an object within another object while exposing an interface of the enclosed object to a client of the enclosing object; Col. 9, Lines 13-14 – enclosing an object within another object after the enclosing object is instantiated; Col. 9, Lines 39-42 – supplying default functionality to objects by enclosing them within an enclosing object where an enclosed or enclosing object implements the default functionality; Col. 9, Lines 55-58 – the enclosed object has an object management interface and on or more external interfaces, while the enclosing object has a controlling object management interface); and
- creating a flavored project system adapted for said specific purpose by object aggregation using said base project object as a participating object and one of said at least one flavor objects as a controlling object (e.g., Col. 8, Lines 66-67 – a method and system for aggregating objects; Col. 9, Lines 4-7 – dynamically aggregating objects; statically aggregating objects; Col. 9, Lines 25-26 – implementing an aggregate object so that a client is unaware that the object is an aggregate; Col. 9, Lines 50-61 – the method aggregates an enclosed object within an enclosing object; each interface exposed to a client by the aggregate object has a query function member for receiving an identifier of an interface and for returning a reference to the identified interface; Col. 10, Lines 8-13 (static aggregation), 17-24 (dynamic aggregation); Col. 10, Lines 24-30 – the multi-type object has an add interface function member, which can be used to aggregate interfaces by adding

them to the enclosing multi-type object; the multi-type object also has an add object function member for aggregating all of the interface of an object; Col. 10, 34-47 – a preferred method invokes the add interface function member or the add object function member of the enclosing multi-type object passing it a reference to the created object implementing the interface to be aggregated; the query function member of the enclosing multi-type object is invoked in order to retrieve a reference to the interface that has been aggregated).

Leach does not explicitly disclose the followings:

- wherein the base project object implements a base project configuration object that includes configuration properties for the base project object, the configuration properties comprising at least one of an indication of a build of the project system, an output file to be created, or an indication as to where the output file will be placed;
- wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties, wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties comprising at least one of a caption of a project node, an icon of a project node, a property allowing a project browse object to be completely overridden, a control allowing a project to be renamed, a sort priority control, a property allowing a command to be added, a property allowing a command to be removed, a property allowing a command to be disabled, a filter, a property allowing a default generator given

a file extension to be determined, or a property allowing a human-readable generator name to be mapped to a COM object;

- signaling by the base project object to the at least one flavor object that the base project configuration object needs to be extended; and
- creating, by the at least one flavor object, a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property.

However, in an analogous art of *Methods and Apparatus for Controlling Object Appearance in a Process Control Configuration System*, Dardinski discloses the followings:

- wherein the base project object implements a base project configuration object that includes configuration properties for the base project object, the configuration properties comprising at least one of an indication of a build of the project system, an output file to be created, or an indication as to where the output file will be placed (e.g., Col. 40, Lines 14-16 - ... properties of the Application object are ... project manager window, output window ...; Col. 51, Lines 19-20 - ... selecting “File|Print Setup” from the application menu; Col. 94, Lines 9-12 - ... This action opens an output window for status and error messages ...);
- wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties, wherein the at least one flavor object includes

flavor-specific project configuration properties comprising at least one of a caption of a project node, an icon of a project node, a property allowing a project browse object to be completely overridden, a control allowing a project to be renamed, a sort priority control, a property allowing a command to be added, a property allowing a command to be removed, a property allowing a command to be disabled, a filter, a property allowing a default generator given a file extension to be determined, or a property allowing a human-readable generator name to be mapped to a COM object (e.g., Col. 12, Lines 7-17 - ...

The Parameter Values in the Modifier Parameterized Objects are used to override the parameters of the Parameterized Object ...; Col. 14, Lines 15-37 - Parameter Override; Col. 39, Lines 19 through Col. 40, Line 56 – COM Architecture in IDA – this is a powerful tool for easily building and maintaining IDA functionality, as well as giving users an extremely rich and flexible way to customize and extend IDA; Col. 64, Lines 21-24 - When user-level security is enabled ....; Col. 22, Lines 2-5 - ... Some of the attribute and assignable selections may be disable when the object ...; Col. 3, Lines 19-27 - ...

Appearance objects provide icons or representations indicating how the configurable objects are to be depicted ...The placeholder objects identify the sizes, locations, colors, etc., of the icons ... to represent the configurable objects);

- signaling by the base project object to the at least one flavor object that the base project configuration object needs to be extended; and

- creating, by the at least one flavor object, a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property (e.g., Col. 3, Lines 47-55 - the configurable objects of such an apparatus can be associated with one another in a hierarchical relationship, such that at least one such object is a descendant of another; descendants inherit parameters from their ancestors; inherited information may be overridden)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Dardinski into the Leach's system to further provide the followings in Leach's system:

- wherein the base project object implements a base project configuration object that includes configuration properties for the base project object, the configuration properties comprising at least one of an indication of a build of the project system, an output file to be created, or an indication as to where the output file will be placed;
- wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties, wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties comprising at least one of a caption of a project node, an icon of a project node, a property allowing a project browse object to be completely overridden, a control allowing a project to be renamed, a sort priority control, a property allowing a command to be

added, a property allowing a command to be removed, a property allowing a command to be disabled, a filter, a property allowing a default generator given a file extension to be determined, or a property allowing a human-readable generator name to be mapped to a COM object;

- signaling by the base project object to the at least one flavor object that the base project configuration object needs to be extended; and
- creating, by the at least one flavor object, a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property.

The motivation is that it would further enhance the Leach's system by taking, advancing and/or incorporating Dardinski's system which offers significant advantages that the configurable objects of such an apparatus can be associated with one another in a hierarchical relationship, such that at least one such object is a descendant of another; descendants inherit parameters from their ancestors; inherited information may be overridden as once suggested by Dardinski (e.g., Col. 3, Lines 47-55)

5. **As to claim 2** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 1), Leach discloses the method where said at least one flavor object comprises at least a first flavor object and a second flavor object, and where said step of creating a flavored project system comprises: creating an intermediary object by aggregating said first flavor object as a controlling object and said base project object as a participating object; and creating a flavored project system by using said second flavor object as a controlling object and

said intermediary object as a participating object (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 27-30 – to provide a method and system for enclosing objects where an enclosed object can itself be an enclosing object to an arbitrary level of enclosing).

6. **As to claim 3** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 1), Leach discloses the method where said step of creating a flavored project system comprises allowing at least one interface of said base project to be modified by said flavor object (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 34-37 – for enhancing a base object's apparent behavior by adding an interface to it that overrides standard behavior of the base object; Col. 25, Lines 3-16 – these combining rules can be used to override the standard behavior of an enclosed base object by providing access to a new implementation of a previously defined interface of the enclosed base object).

7. **As to claim 4** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 3), Leach discloses the method where said step of creating a flavored project system comprises allowing a value for at least one property stored in said at least one interface of said base project to be modified by a value for said at least one property stored in an interface of said flavor object (e.g., Col. 5, Lines 10-12 – the overriding virtual function can modify the state of the object in a way that affects non-overridden functions; Col. 9, Lines 1-2 – to provide a method and system for dynamically modifying object behavior; Col. 9, Lines 34-37 – for enhancing a base object's apparent behavior by adding an interface to it that overrides standard behavior of the base object; Col. 25, Lines 3-16 – these combining

rules can be used to override the standard behavior of an enclosed base object by providing access to a new implementation of a previously defined interface of the enclosed base object; Col. 10, Lines 17-24 – an object can be modified dynamically by allowing interface instances, as implemented by objects, to be aggregated during the execution of a client program).

8. **As to claim 5** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 1), Leach discloses the method where said step of creating a flavored project system comprises allowing at least one interface of said base project to be replaced by said flavor object (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 34-37 – for enhancing a base object's apparent behavior by adding an interface to it that overrides standard behavior of the base object; Col. 25, Lines 3-16 – these combining rules can be used to override the standard behavior of an enclosed base object by providing access to a new implementation of a previously defined interface of the enclosed base object).

9. **As to claim 7** (Previously Presented) (incorporating the rejection in claim 1), Dardinski discloses the method wherein said flavored base project configuration object (e.g., Col. 8, Line 57 through Col. 9, Line 2 - The *InitFromTemplateStream* interface of an assembly object (i.e., a base project configuration object) has one method that controls the initialization of the assembly object from a passed stream; The initialization data is static configuration data along with the initialization data for assembly parameters. Other assembly data, such as ambient properties, can be passed to an

assembly via a connection. The initialization data for the assembly parameters is passed in the steam and the static configuration data can be available through the class identifier of the assembly. The assembly can be customized through the parameters) includes an extender interface, said creation of a project system further comprising: providing an extender site object associated with said extender interface (e.g., Fig. 1 – illustrating an assembly object along with its connection to external entities; Col. 4, Line 52 through Col. 5, Line 20 – an external entity connects assembly-2 to assembly-3 by retrieving the reference to a connector of assembly-2 and requesting the connector to export the element identified by index “i1”, represented by plug102a. the external entity then requests connector-3 of assembly-3 to connect assembly-2 through the connection identified by role “r1”, represented by socket 103b).

10. **As to claim 8** (Currently Amended), Leach discloses a system for building an extensible project system (Abstract, Lines 1-4 – the method aggregates an enclosed object within an enclosing object) comprising:

- A process configured to instantiate a base project object comprising data for creating a project system (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 9-11 – enclosing an object within another object while exposing an interface of the enclosed object to client of the enclosing object; Col. 9, Lines 27-30 – to provide a method and system for enclosing objects wherein an enclosed object can itself be an enclosing object to an arbitrary level of enclosing; Col. 9, Lines 45-46 – implementing controlling behavior over common functionality present in enclosed objects; Col. 10, Lines 9-13 – an enclosed object is implement

with knowledge of the external interfaces of the enclosed object and has no knowledge of interfaces (other than the controlling object management interface; Col. 10, Lines 35-38 – during creation, a pointer to the enclosing multi-type object is passed to the object to be enclosed to enable the enclosed object to communicate with the enclosing multi-type object) of the enclosing object or other enclosed objects);

- A process configured to instantiate at least one flavor object comprising data for modifying said project system for a specific purpose (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 9-11 – enclosing an object within another object while exposing an interface of the enclosed object to a client of the enclosing object; Col. 9, Lines 13-14 – enclosing an object within another object after the enclosing object is instantiated; Col. 9, Lines 39-42 – supplying default functionality to objects by enclosing them within an enclosing object where an enclosed or enclosing object implements the default functionality; Col. 9, Lines 55-58 – the enclosed object has an object management interface and on or more external interfaces, while the enclosing object has a controlling object management interface); and
- a process configured to generate a flavored project system for said specific purpose by object aggregation using said base project object as a participating object and one of said at least one flavor objects as a controlling object (e.g., Col. 8, Lines 66-67 – a method and system for aggregating objects; Col. 9, Lines 4-7 – dynamically aggregating objects; statically aggregating objects; Col. 9, Lines 25-26 – implementing an aggregate object so that a client is unaware that the object is an

aggregate; Col. 9, Lines 50-61 – the method aggregates an enclosed object within an enclosing object; each interface exposed to a client by the aggregate object has a query function member for receiving an identifier of an interface and for returning a reference to the identified interface; Col. 10, Lines 8-13 (static aggregation), 17-24 (dynamic aggregation); Col. 10, Lines 24-30 – the multi-type object has an add interface function member, which can be used to aggregate interfaces by adding them to the enclosing multi-type object; the multi-type object also has an add object function member for aggregating all of the interface of an object; Col. 10, 34-47 – a preferred method invokes the add interface function member or the add object function member of the enclosing multi-type object passing it a reference to the created object implementing the interface to be aggregated; the query function member of the enclosing multi-type object is invoked in order to retrieve a reference to the interface that has been aggregated).

Leach does not explicitly disclose the followings:

- wherein the base project object implements a base project configuration; object that includes configuration properties for the base project object, the configuration properties comprising at least one of an indication of a build of the project system, an output file to be created, or an indication as to where the output file will be placed;
- wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties;

- a process in the base project object configured to signal the at least one flavor object that the base project configuration object needs to be extended; and
- a process in the at least one flavor object configured to generate a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property.

However, in an analogous art of *Methods and Apparatus for Controlling Object Appearance in a Process Control Configuration System*, Dardinski discloses the followings:

- wherein the base project object implements a base project configuration; object that includes configuration properties for the base project object, the configuration properties comprising at least one of an indication of a build of the project system, an output file to be created, or an indication as to where the output file will be placed (e.g., Col. 40, Lines 14-16 - ... properties of the Application object are ... project manager window, output window ...; Col. 51, Lines 19-20 - ... selecting “File|Print Setup” from the application menu; Col. 94, Lines 9-12 - ... This action opens an output window for status and error messages ...);
- wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties (e.g., Col. 12, Lines 7-17 - ... The Parameter Values in the Modifier Parameterized Objects are used to override the parameters of

the Parameterized Object ...; Col. 14, Lines 15-37 - Parameter Override; Col. 39, Lines 19 through Col. 40, Line 56 – COM Architecture in IDA – this is a powerful tool for easily building and maintaining IDA functionality, as well as giving users an extremely rich and flexible way to customize and extend IDA; Col. 64, Lines 21-24 - When user-level security is enabled ....; Col. 22, Lines 2-5 - ... Some of the attribute and assignable selections may be disable when the object ...; Col. 3, Lines 19-27 - ... Appearance objects provide icons or representations indicating how the configurable objects are to be depicted ...The placeholder objects identify the sizes, locations, colors, etc., of the icons ... to represent the configurable objects);

- a process in the base project object configured to signal the at least one flavor object that the base project configuration object needs to be extended; and
- a process in the at least one flavor object configured to generate a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property (e.g., Col. 3, Lines 47-55 - the configurable objects of such an apparatus can be associated with one another in a hierarchical relationship, such that at least one such object is a descendant of another; descendants inherit parameters from their ancestors; inherited information may be overridden).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Dardinski into the Leach's system to further provide the followings in Leach's system:

- wherein the base project object implements a base project configuration; object that includes configuration properties for the base project object, the configuration properties comprising at least one of an indication of a build of the project system, an output file to be created, or an indication as to where the output file will be placed;
- wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties;
- a process in the base project object configured to signal the at least one flavor object that the base project configuration object needs to be extended; and
- a process in the at least one flavor object configured to generate a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property.

The motivation is that it would further enhance the Leach's system by taking, advancing and/or incorporating Dardinski's system which offers significant advantages that the configurable objects of such an apparatus can be associated with one another in a hierarchical relationship, such that at least one such object is a descendant of

another; descendants inherit parameters from their ancestors; inherited information may be overridden as once suggested by Dardinski (e.g., Col. 3, Lines 47-55)

11. **As to claim 9** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 8), Leach discloses the system where said at least one flavor object comprises at least a first flavor object and a second flavor object, and where said aggregator further comprises: a first aggregator for creating an intermediary object by aggregating said first flavor object as a controlling object and said base project object as a participating object; and a second aggregator for creating a flavored project system by using said second flavor object as a controlling object and said intermediary object as a participating object (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 27-30 – to provide a method and system for enclosing objects where an enclosed object can itself be an enclosing object to an arbitrary level of enclosing).

12. **As to claim 10** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 8), Leach discloses the system where said aggregator causes at least one interface of said base project to be modified by said flavor object (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 34-37 – for enhancing a base object's apparent behavior by adding an interface to it that overrides standard behavior of the base object; Col. 25, Lines 3-16 – these combining rules can be used to override the standard behavior of an enclosed base object by providing access to a new implementation of a previously defined interface of the enclosed base object).

13. **As to claim 11** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 10), Leach discloses the system where said aggregator causes a value for at least one property stored in said at least one interface of said base project to be modified by a value for said at least one property stored in an interface of said flavor object (e.g., Col. 5, Lines 10-12 – the overriding virtual function can modify the state of the object in a way that affects non-overridden functions; Col. 9, Lines 1-2 – to provide a method and system for dynamically modifying object behavior; Col. 9, Lines 34-37 – for enhancing a base object's apparent behavior by adding an interface to it that overrides standard behavior of the base object; Col. 25, Lines 3-16 – these combining rules can be used to override the standard behavior of an enclosed base object by providing access to a new implementation of a previously defined interface of the enclosed base object; Col. 10, Lines 17-24 – an object can be modified dynamically by allowing interface instances, as implemented by objects, to be aggregated during the execution of a client program).

14. **As to claim 12** (Original) (incorporating the rejection in claim 8), Leach discloses the system where said aggregator causes at least one interface of said base project to be replaced by said flavor object (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 34-37 – for enhancing a base object's apparent behavior by adding an interface to it that overrides standard behavior of the base object; Col. 25, Lines 3-16 – these combining rules can be used to override the standard behavior of an enclosed base object by providing access to a new implementation of a previously defined interface of the enclosed base object).

15. **As to claim 14** (Previously Presented) (incorporating the rejection in claim 8), Dardinski discloses the system wherein said flavored base project configuration object (e.g., Col. 8, Line 57 through Col. 9, Line 2 - The *InitFromTemplateStream* interface of an assembly object (i.e., a base project configuration object) has one method that controls the initialization of the assembly object from a passed stream; The initialization data is static configuration data along with the initialization data for assembly parameters. Other assembly data, such as ambient properties, can be passed to an assembly via a connection. The initialization data for the assembly parameters is passed in the steam and the static configuration data can be available through the class identifier of the assembly. The assembly can be customized through the parameters) includes an extender interface, said project system further comprising: an extender site object associated with said extender interface (e.g., Fig. 1 – illustrating an assembly object along with its connection to external entities; Col. 4, Line 52 through Col. 5, Line 20 – an external entity connects assembly-2 to assembly-3 by retrieving the reference to a connector of assembly-2 and requesting the connector to export the element identified by index “i1”, represented by plug102a. the external entity then requests connector-3 of assembly-3 to connect assembly-2 through the connection identified by role”r1”, represented by socket 103b).

16. **As to claim 15** (Currently Amended), Leach discloses a computer-readable medium storage for building an extensible project system (e.g., Abstract, Lines 1-4 – the method aggregates an enclosed object within an enclosing object), said computer

readable storage medium storing instructions for causing a computer to perform the steps of comprising:

- providing a base project object comprising data for creating a project system (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 9-11 – enclosing an object within another object while exposing an interface of the enclosed object to client of the enclosing object; Col. 9, Lines 27-30 – to provide a method and system for enclosing objects wherein an enclosed object can itself be an enclosing object to an arbitrary level of enclosing; Col. 9, Lines 45-46 – implementing controlling behavior over common functionality present in enclosed objects; Col. 10, Lines 9-13 – an enclosed object is implemented with knowledge of the external interfaces of the enclosed object and has no knowledge of interfaces (other than the controlling object management interface; Col. 10, Lines 35-38 – during creation, a pointer to the enclosing multi-type object is passed to the object to be enclosed to enable the enclosed object to communicate with the enclosing multi-type object) of the enclosing object or other enclosed objects);
- providing at least one flavor object comprising data for modifying said project system for a specific purpose (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 9-11 – enclosing an object within another object while exposing an interface of the enclosed object to a client of the enclosing object; Col. 9, Lines 13-14 – enclosing an object within another object after the enclosing object is instantiated; Col. 9, Lines 39-42 – supplying default functionality to objects by enclosing them within an enclosing object where an enclosed or enclosing object implements the default functionality; Col. 9, Lines 55-58 – the enclosed object has an object management interface and one or more external

interfaces, while the enclosing object has a controlling object management interface); and

- creating a flavored project system for said specific purpose by object aggregation using said base project object as a participating object and one of said at least one flavor objects as a controlling object (Col. 8, Lines 66-67 – a method and system for aggregating objects; Col. 9, Lines 4-7 – dynamically aggregating objects; statically aggregating objects; Col. 9, Lines 25-26 – implementing an aggregate object so that a client is unaware that the object is an aggregate; Col. 9, Lines 50-61 – the method aggregates an enclosed object within an enclosing object; each interface exposed to a client by the aggregate object has a query function member for receiving an identifier of an interface and for returning a reference to the identified interface; Col. 10, Lines 8-13 (static aggregation), 17-24 (dynamic aggregation); Col. 10, Lines 24-30 – the multi-type object has an add interface function member, which can be used to aggregate interfaces by adding them to the enclosing multi-type object; the multi-type object also has an add object function member for aggregating all of the interface of an object; Col. 10, 34-47 – a preferred method invokes the add interface function member or the add object function member of the enclosing multi-type object passing it a reference to the created object implementing the interface to be aggregated; the query function member of the enclosing multi-type object is invoked in order to retrieve a reference to the interface that has been aggregated).

Leach does not explicitly disclose the followings:

- wherein the base project implements a base project configuration object that includes configuration properties for the base project object, the configuration properties comprising at least one of an indication of a build of the project system, an output file to be created, or an indication as to where the output file will be placed;
- wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties;
- signaling by the base project object to the at least one flavor object that the base project configuration object needs to be extended; and
- creating, by the at least one flavor object, a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property.

However, in an analogous art of *Methods and Apparatus for Controlling Object Appearance in a Process Control Configuration System*, Dardinski discloses the followings:

- wherein the base project implements a base project configuration object that includes configuration properties for the base project object, the configuration properties comprising at least one of an indication of a build of the project system, an output file to be created, or an indication as to where the output file will be placed (e.g., Col. 40, Lines 14-16 - ... properties of the Application object are ... project manager window, output window ...; Col. 51, Lines 19-

20 - ... selecting “File|Print Setup” from the application menu; Col. 94, Lines 9-12 - ... This action opens an output window for status and error messages ...);

- wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties (e.g., Col. 12, Lines 7-17 - ... The Parameter Values in the Modifier Parameterized Objects are used to override the parameters of the Parameterized Object ...; Col. 14, Lines 15-37 - Parameter Override; Col. 39, Lines 19 through Col. 40, Line 56 – COM Architecture in IDA – this is a powerful tool for easily building and maintaining IDA functionality, as well as giving users an extremely rich and flexible way to customize and extend IDA; Col. 64, Lines 21-24 - When user-level security is enabled ....; Col. 22, Lines 2-5 - ... Some of the attribute and assignable selections may be disable when the object ...; Col. 3, Lines 19-27 - ... Appearance objects provide icons or representations indicating how the configurable objects are to be depicted ...The placeholder objects identify the sizes, locations, colors, etc., of the icons ... to represent the configurable objects);
- signaling by the base project object to the at least one flavor object that the base project configuration object needs to be extended; and
- creating, by the at least one flavor object, a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property (e.g., Col. 3, Lines 47-55 - the configurable objects of

such an apparatus can be associated with one another in a hierarchical relationship, such that at least one such object is a descendant of another; descendants inherit parameters from their ancestors; inherited information may be overridden)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Dardinski into the Leach's system to further provide the followings in Leach's system:

- wherein the base project implements a base project configuration object that includes configuration properties for the base project object, the configuration properties comprising at least one of an indication of a build of the project system, an output file to be created, or an indication as to where the output file will be placed;
- wherein the at least one flavor object includes flavor-specific project configuration properties;
- signaling by the base project object to the at least one flavor object that the base project configuration object needs to be extended; and
- creating, by the at least one flavor object, a flavored base project configuration object, wherein at least one configuration property for the base project object is modified by a corresponding flavor-specific project configuration property.

The motivation is that it would further enhance the Leach's system by taking, advancing and/or incorporating Dardinski's system which offers significant advantages

that the configurable objects of such an apparatus can be associated with one another in a hierarchical relationship, such that at least one such object is a descendant of another; descendants inherit parameters from their ancestors; inherited information may be overridden as once suggested by Dardinski (e.g., Col. 3, Lines 47-55)

17. **As to claim 16** (Previously Presented) (incorporating the rejection in claim 15), Leach discloses the computer-readable medium storage where said at least one flavor object comprises at least a first flavor object and a second flavor object, and where said step of creating a flavored project system comprises: creating an intermediary object by aggregating said first flavor object as a controlling object and said base project object as a participating object; and creating a flavored project system by using said second flavor object as a controlling object and said intermediary object as a participating object (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 27-30 – to provide a method and system for enclosing objects where an enclosed object can itself be an enclosing object to an arbitrary level of enclosing).

18. **As to claim 17** (Previously Presented) (incorporating the rejection in claim 15), Leach discloses the computer-readable medium storage where said step of creating a flavored project system comprises allowing at least one interface of said base project to be modified by said flavor object (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 34-37 – for enhancing a base object's apparent behavior by adding an interface to it that overrides standard behavior of the base object; Col. 25, Lines 3-16 – these combining rules can be used to override the standard behavior of an enclosed base object by providing access to a new implementation of a previously defined interface of the enclosed base object).

19. **As to claim 18** (Previously Presented) (incorporating the rejection in claim 17), Leach discloses the computer-readable medium storage where said step of creating a flavored project system comprises allowing a value for at least one property stored in said at least one interface of said base project to be modified by a value for said at least one property stored in an interface of said flavor object (e.g., Col. 5, Lines 10-12 – the overriding virtual function can modify the state of the object in a way that affects non-overridden functions; Col. 9, Lines 1-2 – to provide a method and system for dynamically modifying object behavior; Col. 9, Lines 34-37 – for enhancing a base object's apparent behavior by adding an interface to it that overrides standard behavior of the base object; Col. 25, Lines 3-16 – these combining rules can be used to override the standard behavior of an enclosed base object by providing access to a new implementation of a previously defined interface of the enclosed base object; Col. 10, Lines 17-24 – an object can be modified dynamically by allowing interface instances, as implemented by objects, to be aggregated during the execution of a client program).

20. **As to claim 19** (Previously Presented) (incorporating the rejection in claim 15), Leach discloses the computer-readable medium storage where said step of creating a flavored project system comprises allowing at least one interface of said base project to be replaced by said flavor object (e.g., Col. 9, Lines 34-37 – for enhancing a base object's apparent behavior by adding an interface to it that overrides standard behavior of the base object; Col. 25, Lines 3-16 – these combining rules can be used to override

the standard behavior of an enclosed base object by providing access to a new implementation of a previously defined interface of the enclosed base object).

21. **As to claim 21** (Previously Presented) (incorporating the rejection in claim 15), Dardinski discloses the computer-readable storage medium wherein said flavored base project configuration object (e.g., Col. 8, Line 57 through Col. 9, Line 2 - The *initFromTemplateStream* interface of an assembly object (i.e., a base project configuration object) has one method that controls the initialization of the assembly object from a passed stream; The initialization data is static configuration data along with the initialization data for assembly parameters. Other assembly data, such as ambient properties, can be passed to an assembly via a connection. The initialization data for the assembly parameters is passed in the steam and the static configuration data can be available through the class identifier of the assembly. The assembly can be customized through the parameters) includes an extender interface, said creation of a project system further comprising: providing an extender site object associated with said extender interface (e.g., Fig. 1 – illustrating an assembly object along with its connection to external entities; Col. 4, Line 52 through Col. 5, Line 20 – an external entity connects assembly-2 to assembly-3 by retrieving the reference to a connector of assembly-2 and requesting the connector to export the element identified by index “i1”, represented by plug102a. the external entity then requests connector-3 of assembly-3 to connect assembly-2 through the connection identified by role “r1”, represented by socket 103b).

### ***Conclusion***

22. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ben C. Wang whose telephone number is 571-270-1240. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam can be reached on 571-272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ben C Wang/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2192  
April 23, 2008

/Tuan Q. Dam/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2192